

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 IO-14 DRC-01 /111 W

----- 116242

R 301404Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3041

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 0995

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJ: IMPLICATIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND UNITED STATES OF BRITISH  
TUC DELEGATION VISIT.

1. OCTOBER 7 - 20 VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA OF BRITISH TUC DELEGATION  
COULD CONSTITUTE EVENT OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE NOT ONLY FOR  
SOUTH AFRICA AND BRITISH FIRMS OPERATING IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT FOR  
UNITED STATES AS WELL ESPECIALLY IF TUC ACCEPTS AND IMPLEMENTS  
TWO OF MORE IMPORTANT OF DELEGATION'S EXPECTED RECOMMENDATIONS:  
FIRST, THAT TUC UNDERTAKE TO CONVINCE STRONGLY ANTI-SOUTH  
AFRICA ELEMENTS WITHIN INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION MOVEMENT THAT  
THERE ARE FORCES WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA WHICH DESERVE AND NEED  
MOVEMENT'S SUPPORT AND SECOND, THAT TUC PROVIDE MORE DIRECT AND  
IMMEDIATE HELP TO THESE FORCES IN FORMS OF PRESSURE ON LOW-PAYING  
FIRMS PLUS FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO TUCSA AND OTHER  
SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS.

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2. CONGEN BELIEVES VIGOROUS TUC ACTION ALONG THESE LINES ON

HEELS OF WELL-PUBLICIZED HIGH-LEVEL VISIT MIGHT BE VERY DIFFICULT  
ACT FOR U.S. TRADE UNION MOVEMENT TO FOLLOW SHOULD IT DECIDE IT  
WANTS TO TRY TO PLAY SIMILAR OR PARALELL ROLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

3. IT WOULD BE MISTAKE, OF COURSE, TO RULE OUT SUCH POSSIBILI-  
TIES AS THAT TUC MIGHT NOT SEE FIT TO FOLLOW THROUGH IN ENERGETIC  
MANNER WITH EXPECTED RECOMMENDATIONS OR THAT SAG MIGHT IN  
ANY CASE TAKE VERY DIM VIEW OF IN-COUNTRY TRADE UNION ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM (IN WHICH CASES VISIT COULD END UP AS MERE HISTORICAL  
FOOTNOT). GIVEN SAG'S CONCERN ABOUT BOTH NATIONAL AND INTER-  
NATIONAL ASPECTS OF ITS GROWING NON-WHITE LABOR PROBLEMS,  
HOWEVER, PLUS SUCH SURPRISING ADDITIONAL FACTS AS THAT  
ORGANIZATION OF AFRIKANER BUSINESSMEN (AFRIKAANSE  
HANDEKINSTITUUT) HAS OFFERED TO PAY COSTS OF TUC RETURN VISIT  
IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT EITHER OF THESE POSSIBILITIES WILL  
MATERIALIZE.

4. INCIRCUMSTANCES CONGEN WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE RECEIVING  
ASAP ANY INFORMATION ON PROPOSALS OR DECISION WHICH  
AFL-CIO MIGHT HAVE MADE WITH RESPECT TO SOUTH AFRICA AT  
RECENT BIENNIAL CONFERENCE.  
DEGRACE

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